THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1871.

The Chicago Tribune.

VOL. 24. CHICAGO, TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1871. NO. 257.

WASHINGTON.

Finishing Work of the Present Session of Congress.

The Ku-Klux and Deficiency Bills Discussed in Conference Committee.

Republican Senators Decide Against the Passage of the Amnesty Bill.

Russian Application for an Agency for the New Loan.

Revenue Officers Murdered in Tennessee.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

AMERICAN ARCHEOLOGICAL CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The Senate [illegible] had a stormy session this morning, lasting two hours, to consider the propriety of fasting upon the anniversary of the battle of Lexington. After a number of speeches made for and against the measure, three of the latter very violent, Sherry and Hamlin, of Maine, voted with the majority, and the motion was defeated by a vote of 28 to 27. It is stated that the Senate was convinced that Congress was legislating for the benefit of Massachusetts, and that the bill had partisan purposes. Messrs. Edwards, Morton and Chandler were of opinion that the time had not arrived for such a measure. The bill was also characterized as not coming from the people, but as an ebullition of spite against the memory of Gen. Lee. Mr. Chandler's remarks were

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TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1871.

LAWS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE GRAIN TRADE.

We congratulate the people of Illinois and the Northwest on the passage, by the Legislature, of the three important acts demanded by the grain producers and shippers. These are the Warehouse law, and the act concerning the transportation of grain by railways, both of which we published yesterday, and the act to establish a Board of Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners, which we publish this morning.

These acts, in all their general features, do not call for dissent on the part of the Legislature in calling every demand, which has been made on behalf of the producers and shippers of grain. It still remains to test their practical workings, and it would be premature, in advance of that test, to predict whether they will satisfy all the good at which they aim. It may be necessary to close up some obscurities and amend some unadvertences here and there.

For instance, we observe that Section 3 of the Warehouse law requires that every person, before he enters on the duties of his business, shall obtain a license from the Circuit Court, which license is made revocable by said court in a summary proceeding for the neglect of which it is to hold, and trust the result of conducting which an appeal is not, by any express terms, allowed or denied.

But, in the act appointing the Commissioners, it is provided that the said Commissioners shall be entitled to hear and determine all applications for the issuance of warehouse licenses, which may be issued by virtue of the laws of this State, and upon such hearing to "cancel and revoke the license of such public warehouseman," and "immediately notify the officer who issued such license of such revocation and cancellation." From this it appears that the Circuit Court alone can grant the license, while either the Circuit Court or the Railway Commissioners can revoke it. The object of the Legislature seems to have been to make the revocation of the License as easy as possible to the party desiring to use the penalty as a means of fostering the warehouse system. Still we may conceive that neither the Circuit Court, nor the able Commissioners whom the Governor has appointed to enforce this law, would allow such a penalty to be readily invoked, inasmuch as it would fall chiefly or heavily upon shippers and owners of grain, or upon the consignees of such shippers and owners.

The Commissioners are required to call upon the railroads for reports embracing forty-two distinctly enumerated topics, all tending to shed light on the question, in relation to which the Commissioners are the representatives of the people. They are also empowered and required to prosecute the warehousemen and railroads on behalf of every citizen, but in the name of the people of the State, for every infringement of private rights by either class of corporations. A view of their being thus made public purveyors, the propriety of the provision above referred to, giving them concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Courts to prosecute insolvents, may, perhaps, be seriously questioned. It may readily be answered, however, that the Commissioners will avoid taking action in cases and proceedings relative to the main object of complaint. Again, the Warehouse law, in Section 13, authorizes the Commissioners to "grant licenses" to warehousemen, while, in Section 14, it empowers the Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners to establish grades. But these apparent inconsistencies may not prove to be practical defects.

The general scope of Section 14, relative to establishing rates to leave the "numbers" less subject to "unnecessary litigation." It is better to deliver and take the grain of each grade in the order in which it was received in store, if found of "a like condition" as "it leaves it," than to subject any portion of it to the delay and expense of litigation, and delivery to the owner of the most inferior quantity. It is also well to deal with the obligation, in the Fifteenth Section, to issue receipts for grain only when the same is in store.

The general purpose of these laws is to require the warehouses and railroads to do what, and only that, which their managers ought to do without any coercion. The provisions requiring the railroads to give accurate receipts for grain at the places where it is received, and for delivering the same weight and quality at the point of destination, against inspection in grade and weight the grain at the warehouse, and prohibiting to railroads (it is according) requiring proper reports by railroads and shippers; and that they shall otherwise, the members of the Legislature will grant that the State of Illinois is a very large, well organized to fight against, and that, in their new conflict, they will need all their wits and notions, as well as mettle. They have also to defeat the State laws, we do not deny; forms of these are undoubtedly to point out while they were still pending in the Legislature. While they were in the Legislature. While they were in session, it was thought that they will be corrected by the joint action of the Legislatures. Nonetheless, while we can assess the greatness and glory of a State, not only of Illinois but of other States, that, whatever it is possible for the people to do, it has done, and for their protection, has been done. If there has been any error, it has been in an excess of zeal for their interests.

Mr. Rice, of Massachusetts, the intelligent member of Congress, not only proposing that the Western States should "open their doors to the surplus population of the Eastern States," but that the Government should devolve upon the present body of making appropriations from the 1st of July, 1871, to the 1st of July, 1875. There will, therefore, be an interregnum, so far as appropriations are concerned, from July till December, and this when the Legislature reassembles.

The Legislature of Nevada has petitioned Congress for an act to extend the northern boundary of that State to Snake River, and that all the country and Idaho south of that river be included in Nevada. We are in favor of this action, provided that the western boundary of Nevada be extended so as to include all the territory of Utah. If this be done, there will be a remarkable proposal that in time Nevada will have a population equal to the ratio required for a Representative in Congress. The same Legislature has memorialized Congress for an extension of the time for locating lands under the Agricultural College law. The difficulty is to find that amount of public land in Nevada, and, unless more territory be added to the State, the selection will perhaps never be made.

The Pittsburgh Board of Trade has published statistics concerning the cotton production of the South and the manufacture of the same in the North and the interior, which are graphic sketches from Southern ports. At the close of the former, the total receipts at the ports of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia for the year ending with last August were 3,351,887 bales, against 3,930,407 bales in 1869-70. These figures indicate a total crop of twelve months, which the Board of Trade estimates at 4,000,000 bales, and the value of this crop at three quarters millions of dollars. It is from that the trade of New Orleans in this great Southern staple, though still greater than that of any other port, shows a greater proportional falling off than that of Charleston, while Galveston, the latest opened, is the only one which shows a positive increase. The Board of Trade attributes the falling off in the trade of Mobile and Charleston the rank of third in the list. The prospects for the crop of 1871 indicate a large increase in spite of Ku-Klux terror — which, indeed, appears to be the inspiration of the farmers afterwall.

THE DEPARTMENT.

Appointments and Removals.

Under the new Warehouse law, which we have published in full, the Governor has appointed Messrs. Morrison, Root and Bross Commissioners, to hold office for two years. Their duties are to see that the provisions of the law are carried out, and to report to the Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, and to the Governor, such violations of the law as may come to their knowledge. The Commissioners are also required to make an annual report to the Governor, on the first Monday in January, of the condition of the warehouses, and the number of bushels of grain stored in each, and such other information as they may deem necessary. The Commissioners are also required to report to the Governor, on the first Monday in January, the number of miles of railroad in the State, the amount of capital stock paid in, the amount of bonded indebtedness, the amount of gross earnings, the amount of expenses, the amount of net earnings, the number of passengers carried, the number of tons of freight carried, the number of persons killed and injured, and the cause of the casualty, the number of miles run by freight trains during the year, the number of miles run by passenger trains during the year, the number of employés, the amount paid for salaries, the amount paid for wages, the amount paid for taxes, the amount paid for repairs, the amount paid for new equipments, the amount paid for interest on bonded debt, the amount paid for rentals, the amount paid for dividends, the number of dividends declared during the year, the rate per cent of dividends declared during the year, the amount of dividends declared during the year, the amount of surplus earnings, the amount of surplus earnings reinvested in the road, the amount of surplus earnings reinvested in other property, the amount of surplus earnings not reinvested, the amount of surplus earnings not reinvested, the amount of surplus earnings not reinvested

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In drawing of April 29, 1871, Capital Prize, $100,000. Whole Tickets, $20; Halves, $10; Quarters, $5. Circulars sent free. Address, E. A. SOMMER & CO., Bankers, New York P.O.

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PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS.

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THE LAW COURTS.

An Order Enforcement of a Commercial Arbitration.

Lime Kilns and Nursery Suits the Subjects of Litigation.

Trials in the Criminal Courts.

Circuit Court.

ASSIGNATION TO BE GIVEN.—Judge Blodgett entered an order in the case of Charles Guilbert and Robert Burrows, being co-partners in the boot and shoe manufacturing business, etc., in this city, discharged upon a deed of assignment of the property of the firm to Wm. Penn Nixon, Esq., assignee of the estate of the said partners. The assignment (under the statute) is an attachment, and it appears that Burrows was arrested upon a writ of attachment, and Guilbert's property was also attached. Burrows made a motion to discharge the attachment, and the affidavits on which the attachment was issued were read. The affidavits of Burrows was also read, in which he stated that Guilbert had made an assignment of his property to Nixon, and that Guilbert was insolvent. The affidavits of Guilbert were also read, in which he stated that Burrows had drawn out the money of the firm, and that he was insolvent. The affidavits of Burrows further stated that Burrows had drawn the money out of the firm to pay a debt of $1,000 which he owed to Guilbert, and that Guilbert had no right to assign the property of the firm. Upon the affidavits the motion was granted, and the attachment discharged.

CONTESTED ATTACHMENT.

Judge Blodgett also entered an order in the case of Lemuel C. Hoffman & Co. against Edwin C. Gilbert and Gustavus Moody, and on application of the plaintiffs, on motion of Mr. Hoffman, in the matter of an attachment for $10,000, and affidavits in said case having been read, in which it was stated that the defendants were about to remove their property from the State, and that they were selling their stock in discriminately, by which they would be defrauding their creditors, and that they were about to make an assignment for the benefit of their creditors, by which they would defraud the plaintiffs, the motion was granted.

CHANGE OF VENUE.

A bill was filed in this court and in question and answer by Lemuel C. Hoffman & Co. against Edwin C. Gilbert, William H. Moody, and Cyrus L. Cobb, praying possession of certain lime works, as well as for an injunction.

The defendant Gilbert filed his affidavit for a change of venue, stating that he resided on the corner of Western avenue and Fourth street, Cook county, Illinois, and that he was a citizen of Illinois, and entitled to make the application. The affidavit was sworn to before Clerk Wheeler, and the change was granted, and the papers ordered to be sent to the Clerk of Cook county, with the necessary appointment of a master in chancery to take the testimony in the case. The bill states that on or about the 1st day of October, 1870, the defendants, Gilbert and Moody, leased to the plaintiffs the lime works, and warranted that the lime then in the kilns was of the finest lime which the works would produce, and represented that the lime then burning in the kilns was of the finest lime which the works would produce, and that the lime then burning in the kilns was of the finest lime which the works would produce, and that the lime then burning in the kilns was of the finest lime which the works would produce, and

FOREIGN.

Progress Made in the Siege of Paris.

The Versailles Forces Rapidly Encircling the City.

Additional Accounts of the Late Fighting.

Foreign Representatives Urge the Commune to Agree to a Truce.

THE SIEGE OF PARIS.

THE VERSAILLES TROOPS ENCIRCLING THE CITY.

[Special to the New-York Tribune.]

PARIS, April 16.—The Versailles troops are rapidly encircling the city. They have been reinforced by 40,000 men, but are still numerically inferior to the Communists.

NEW BARRICADES.

A new barricade has been erected near the centre of the Place Vendome. The demolition of the column has been postponed until after the cessation of hostilities.

DEPUTIES FOR THE WAR NEWS.

The Prefecture official dispatch from Versailles, sent to-day afternoon, as follows: "Yesterday, April 15, the Assembly was in session at Versailles. Several members were sent from the Ports to the Assembly.

"The session of the Chamber Saturday was purely formal. The Assembly will meet on Monday, at which time it is expected the Ministry will be reconstructed."

PORTIONS OF LOYAL TROOPS.

Lieutenant-General Clinchant, Count Ornano, Duke del Caramano, and Commandant Allix, have all been wounded in the fighting. General Vinoy, from Bicetre, made a reconnoissance to the walls of Paris and captured many prisoners. Bernal's cavalry occupied the three lines of railway between Orleans, Corbeil, and Montargis.

DENIAL FROM LOUIS BLANC.

Louis Blanc denies the statement that he made the two years' tour of power upon Taine, but says the project was submitted to only fourteen, and Thiers decided it.

THE SITUATION.

VERSAILLES, April 17, via LONDON, Midnight.—The Assembly has passed a motion declaring municipal elections in Paris on the 30th inst.

SHARP FIGHTING.

It is reported that a sharp engagement took place this morning near Asnieres, and that the Government troops entered Courbevoie after routing the rebels.

PARIS, Monday, via LONDON, April 17, 1:30 P. M.—Cannonading and skirmishing is going on at Asnieres and Courbevoie. The Communists are retreating into the city. Nearly 30,000 troops are now in the field.

OTHER FIGHTING.

A report is current that the Commissaries of the United States, England, and Italy are jointly urging the commander in chief to agree to a truce.

UNWARRANTED INVASION.

Rome National Guards having invaded the house of the Papal Ambassy, and ordered the investigation into his being driven from Rome, the Ambassador has been elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies.

REPORTS CONTRADICTED.

The election of Rouher is denied, but few persons voted.

GENERAL COURT MARTIAL.

The Commune has instituted a general court martial.

ARREST.

Chaudey, editor of the Siecle, has been arrested. He was released on bail, but the order for his re-arrest is issued in 1861 hrs. There is a great scarcity of provisions in the city. Bread is selling at 50 cents without a ticket to the bakery.

EXODUS OF THE LAST FORTIES.

NEW YORK, April 17.—A special to the Tribune from Versailles, dated April 15, says: "The movement during the past forty-eight hours. The movement during the past forty-eight hours. The movement is very large, and is still going on. It is reported, and that a safe-conduct to enter and leave the city has been granted to the Communists. The Versailles troops are now in possession of the heights of Chatillon, Clamart, Meudon, Bellevue, Sevres, Montretout, Bougival, Rueil, Nanterre, Asnieres, Courbevoie, Colombes, Bois de Colombes, and Bennevilliers, thus holding Asnieres on three sides